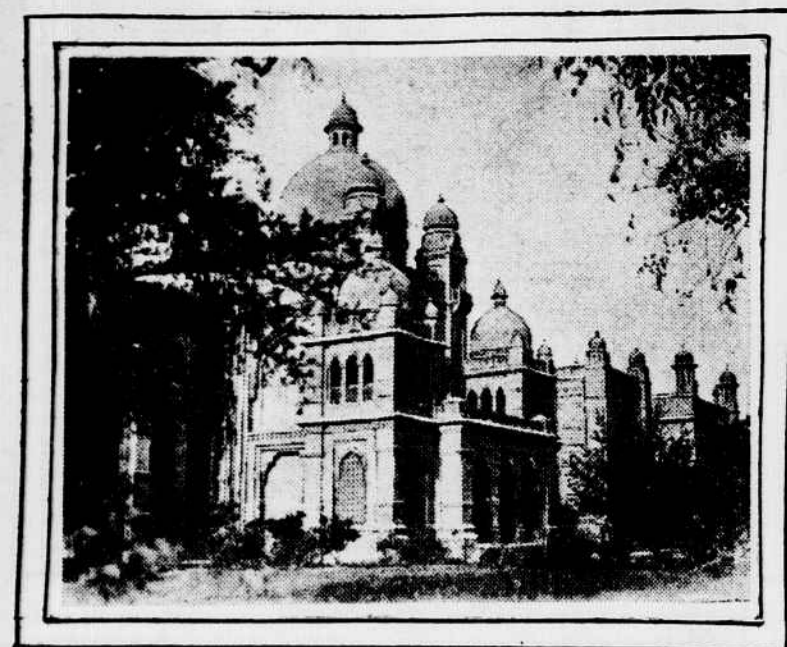


India's "City of Discontent" and the European War

THE Question of Whether the New Viceroy, Lord Chelmsford, Will Be Able to Soothe Lahore, the "City of Discontent"—Capital and Commercial Center of the Fertile Punjab—Interesting Features of the City for the Tourist—Mixture of Native Races and Religions—Is There a Danger of a Widespread Revolt?—Grave Problems for the British Government.



THE PUNJAB MUSEUM.

BY CHARLES M. PEPPER.

INDIA has a new viceroy. He is Lord Chelmsford, an experienced official. Problems confront him which require experience, good judgment and insight into oriental character.

The query on the lips of those who know India is whether the new viceroy will be able to soothe the "City of Discontent." This is Lahore.

There are plenty of other discontented and dissatisfied sections of India, but it is the unspoken belief that whoever can keep Lahore quiet can tranquillize the rest of India.

Lahore is well to the north. It is the capital and commercial center of the fertile Punjab. This is known as the five-river region, because of the important streams which water it. Lahore itself is on the River Ravi.

The Punjab, by means of its rivers, has been enabled to develop a very complete system of irrigation canals. Its wheat crop helps to feed England

and to stabilize prices of food in the United Kingdom. It also has abundant crops of corn, oil seeds, cotton, cane and rice. It is the most varied and productive agricultural region of India.

Lahore is the gateway of northern India. The railway runs to Rawalpindi and beyond to Peshawar, at the mouth of the Kabul pass into Afghanistan. Lahore also is considered the gateway to and from Kashmir. A splendid highway runs from Rawalpindi to Srinagar, the capital of Kashmir. The mail coaches and the tongas, or native huggies, and the bullock carts once monopolized this road, but the automobiles now have crowded them out, although there is still some traffic by means of the bullocks.

There is also another road from Lahore to Srinagar, more direct but less convenient and consequently less traveled. The commerce of northern India which reaches Lahore flows out through the port of Karachi on the Arabian sea. There is through railway communication.

The railways also keep Lahore in direct communication with Bombay and Calcutta, so that as the city of discontent it is in touch with the dissatisfied elements in all parts of India. The city itself is an industrial center. There are cotton and flour mills, potteries, metal working and numerous

minor industrial activities. There are also the hand looms, since the mills have not yet entirely displaced this ancient form of Hindu weaving.

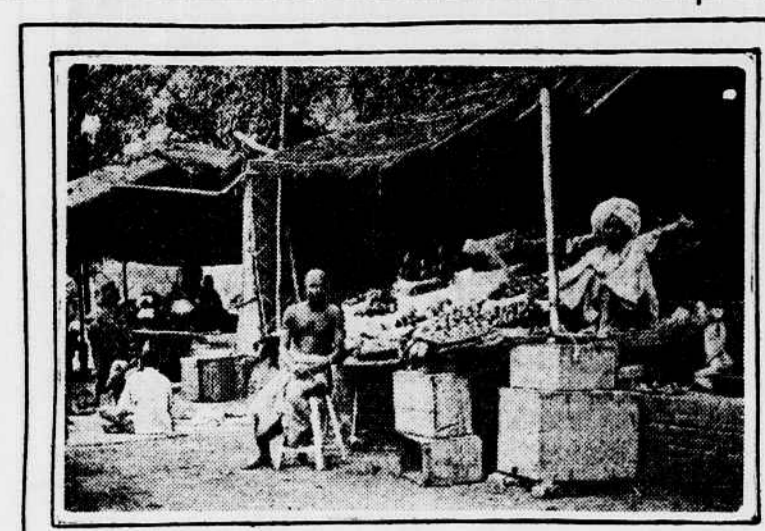
The Punjab Museum, for those who wish to know something of the industrial life, is the most interesting place in Punjab. The Buddhist sculptures from Peshawar are very striking. There are carpets and rugs and glazed tiles, mosaics, pottery and examples of exquisite metal working, along with screens and doors which illustrate the delicacy of the lacquer wood carving. There are also the old doors of the sixteenth century, in themselves an interesting exhibit. Then there are numerous drawings and reproductions by art students.

The most interesting exhibits, however, are the throngs of native visitors, whose comments are very characteristic. A local mullah, or teacher, who showed me through the museum, interpreted some remarks of one of the Punjabese visitors as expressive of his satisfaction that there was "nothing English" in the museum. There is, however, a great deal that is English in Lahore.

Out Shalimar Gardens way are numerous English bungalows, and also the English College in the Lawrence Gardens, which is at once a tribute to British educational policy and a monument to the progressive Englishmen who have not been afraid to teach the natives lest that should increase their discontent. The group of college buildings are not out of harmony with their environment.

The government buildings, while comfortable, are not imposing. They are in the midst of shaded grounds and their graceful towers and arcade balconies are in keeping with the surroundings.

The Shalimar Gardens usually are described in the tourist guide books as hanging gardens. They lie beyond a half ruined Moslem village. There are three terraces, or grassy platforms, all most distressing in their mathematical regularity, with squares and rectangles



FRUIT SELLERS OF LAHORE.

and with shallow lakes and fountains. Their shady walks have been spoiled by overmuch landscaping, as is the tendency in India, where usually the ruling race seeks to add a few layers of ornamentation to the architectural traditions of the ruled race.

Jehangir's tomb is one of the chief historic attractions of Lahore. The mausoleum is on the bank of the Ravi river, which is now crossed by a fine bridge instead of the bridge of boats of old. There are four towers at the corners of the tomb. The mosaics and the marble lacquer work are the most beautiful features of the mausoleum. There is an inscription in the Urdu vernacular, reciting that it is the burial place of "Jehangir, the conqueror of the world."

Jehangir's conquests were many and thorough, and fill a great space in the history of the Mohammedan invasion of India. But the world was larger than Jehangir and his contemporaries knew, and there was even more to India than they realized. The world of India, which he conquered, did not remain vanquished, and much of it fell away from his successors. Nevertheless, the Mohammedan grandeur continued and the domes and minarets of the mosques still dwarf the temples of the Jains and other Hindu sects.

Anarkali tomb is also one of the sights of Lahore. He was known as the Lion of Lahore. The dome building in which is held the yellow marble coffin that contains Anarkali's remains is now occupied as a government office without detracting any from the greatness of the "Lion of Lahore."

The English section of Lahore is a fine and spacious Anglo-Indian town, with an abundance of shade trees, wooded arcades and palms. The real Lahore, the actual city of discontent, is something very different. Many of the streets are as narrow as alleys, with the balconies and roofs crowding one another. In these alleys are some unusually fine examples of clay and wood carving, and of lattice and lacquer work. It is here that the native life pulsates and seethes, and resents interference. Yet there are some concessions from the native customs. A Hindu "barker" in European clothes and with the helmet hat of the Englishman, crying the attractions of a side show, was one of these which I noted. Another was a group of Mohammedans playing cards with English cards. Nor

had not been promptly checked by the firm hand of authority this might have resulted. A special tribunal was created, and several hundred persons were brought to trial. There were a few acquittals, some condemnations to death and many imprisonments and deportations to convict colonies.

The English newspapers in India praised the action taken, but complained that it was not severe enough. The papers published in English which reflected native sentiment naturally were guarded in their comments.

From them, however, it appeared that the special tribunals were not looked upon as having maintained the maxim of English jurisprudence that a judicial tribunal should not only administer justice according to law, but administer it in such a way as to carry the general public with it. It was also claimed that the prisoners were deprived of many of the facilities allowed to ordinary criminals to establish their innocence.

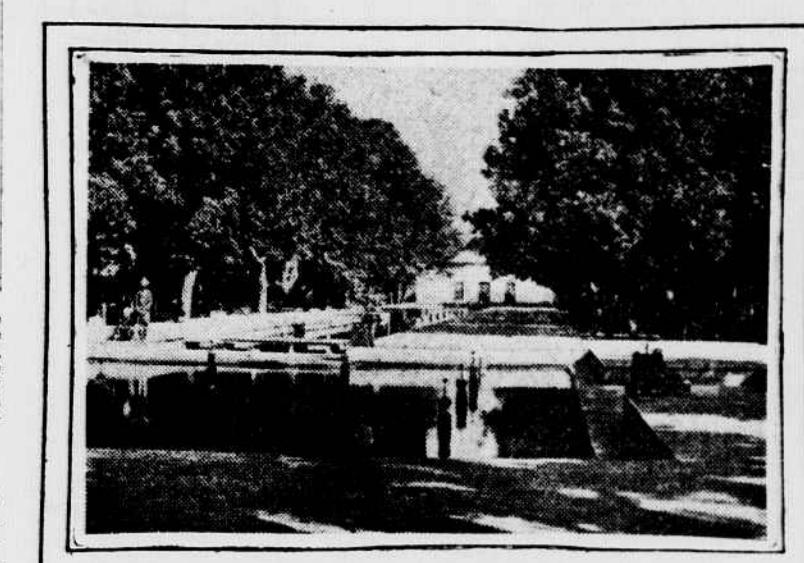
The native view seemed to be that while there may have been a conspiracy it was a childish affair, and that the British government in India was in no danger from the throwing of a few bombs and the firing of a few revolvers.

The representatives of the radical party in the United States claimed that more than 200 revolutionists were hanged or shot at Lahore and other places, and that 500 were transported for life, and 3,000 interned without trial. These were said to include professors, physicians, priests, editors, social reformers, students, peasants, laborers and soldiers.

Apparently, while any possible danger of a widespread revolt was avoided, the agitation did not cease, and the seditious movement continued. The British authorities, according to a London dispatch, by the seizure of German intrigue, possibly, had had something to do with the discontent since the breaking out of the world war, yet probably much less than it is credited with. Many of the reports of revolts in the Punjab, which subsequently have been shown to be unfounded, have come from Berlin. India as a base of military and naval power would be immensely valuable to Germany, but neither in the Punjab nor in other sections have the native races shown a desire to change rulers.

A more reasonable explanation is that the discontent, which was latent when she went to war, and Lahore and the Punjab simply reflected this condition. Much of the agitation has been stimulated not from Germany, but from the United States, possibly, though, with support from the Hindu radical party, whose watchword is "India for the Indians." Its headquarters is now occupied as a government office without detracting any from the greatness of the "Lion of Lahore."

Months ago the lieutenant governor of the Punjab, who is the viceroy's representative, and is the visible exponent of British rule, made an official statement regarding the seriousness and magnitude of the conspiracies. He claimed that the purpose was to provoke another mutiny similar to the Sepoy mutiny of 1857, and that if they



FAMED HANGING GARDENS OF LAHORE.

man subjects aboard the mail liner China uncovered a new revolutionary plot. There have been further trials and convictions by the special tribunal. A recent dispatch from Bombay stated that the new viceroy would have to determine whether the sentence of twenty conspirators who had been condemned to death should be commuted.

The capital of India is now at Delhi, whence it was removed from Calcutta because of the anarchistic movements in Bengal. Delhi is not so far north as Lahore, yet it is almost within the same sphere of agitation as the Punjab. The new viceroy possibly may remain there a while before he goes to Simla in the mountains, which is the summer capital. He may also visit Lahore itself, but the probabilities are that his judgment will be guided by the views of the lieutenant governor of the Punjab.

British officialdom in India is very sensitive to new viceroys coming out and ignoring and overriding the views of the officials on the ground. In a vast of this importance, however, Lord Chelmsford, undoubtedly reflects the policy of the home government, which is solicitous to repress revolt without undue severity.

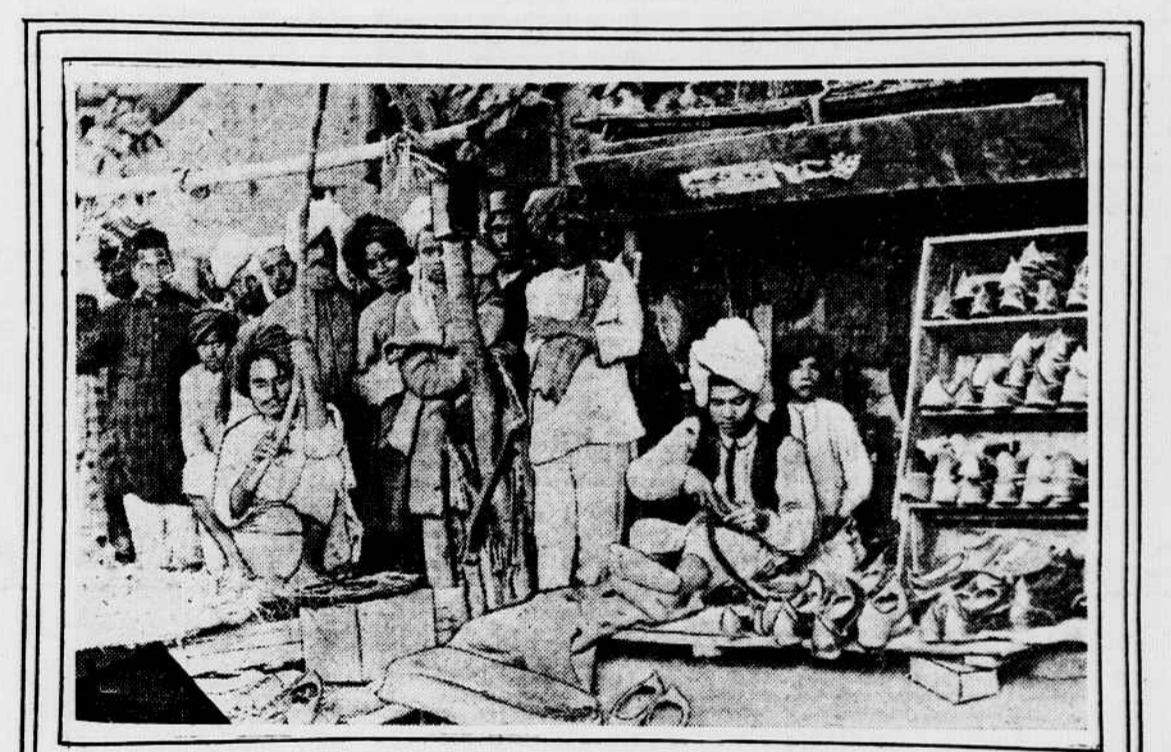
Since the world war has continued

for more than eighteen months without the great mass of the population of India rising against British rule, it may be assumed that either they recognize that it would be futile, or that they are content to await the conclusion of hostilities before seeking the adjustment of their grievances.

This has been the attitude of the native princes, some of whom have contributed munificently to the war chest of England and have sent their full contingent of troops.

There are genuine grievances, both of a political and of an economic character. The most that British statesmen who are sympathetic with the aspirations of India expect is to keep the discontent in a semi-tranquil state and remedial measures can be adopted. The British military and bureaucratic casters in India, and the trading classes would have the repressive measures made permanent. To them the fact that there was a conspiracy in the Punjab and that some hundred natives showed their dissatisfaction by joining it, is conclusive proof that British rule has been too mild. This view was reflected in many of Kipling's writings before the war.

It is not likely, however, that the military and bureaucratic and trading classes will have their way. They will be fortunate if they manage through the situation without provoking greater ill-feeling than now exists. Lahore, as the city of discontent, and the Punjab, as the region of revolution, are grave problems for the British government, but they are not hopeless.



SHOEMAKERS OF LAHORE.

Government Suffers From War Prices in the Buying of Federal Supplies

BY AN act of Congress a committee was established in 1910 to prepare specifications, receive the proposals of bidders and to award contracts for government supplies. This committee is known as the general supply committee and consists of representatives from the executive departments and federal commissions. Dr. O. H. Briggs was made superintendent of the committee. His duties are detailed and manifold. He was formerly superintendent of supplies at the Post Office Department.

By means of the committee a wide range of business is done that is handled by any other corporation in any country in the world. One of the first rules is efficiency, and efficiency in their particular line means economy. Economy for the United States government means close buying.

During the last five years the general supply committee has materially assisted Uncle Sam in saving over \$2,500,000. It is possible for them to obtain bargains that will enable the country to make even a greater saving. All contract prices range from 10 to 40 per cent lower than those quoted in the open market.

Buying for Uncle Sam is a tremendous task. Supplies include everything from pickles to automobiles, from sarsaparilla to pumps. The aggregate cost amounts to several million dollars each year. The general supply committee contracts for articles by which there are some 200,000 items. The fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, new contracts becoming effective July 1.

Since the outbreak of the European war, markets all over the world have been so disturbed that individuals have felt the rebound of the universal upheaval. Uncle Sam, being in no way infallible, has naturally felt the climb of prices. What was declared in 1914 and prices shot skyward at such a dizzy pace, firms having government contracts were frantic. Let Uncle Sam increase, and increases run from 10 per cent up in such things as clothes, textiles, typewriter ribbons, hardware, pencils and all kinds of stationery.

The general supply committee has prepared a schedule of supplies with twenty divisions or classes. Class 1, for instance, includes stationery and drafting supplies; class 2, hardware, metals, leather and saddlery; class 3, laboratory apparatus, hospital appliances; class 4, furniture and floor covering; class 5, fuel and ice; class 6, motor trucks, etc., and every article included in each class has advanced in price.

All kinds of paper have risen in price, and the shortage has grown so serious that every concern which uses large amounts of paper faces the future with trepidation and worried questionings. In the borough of Queens, England, bids were opened for picking the dumps clean of their waste paper and rags, and there were as many as 15,522 bids made, which doubles the number of last year's bids.

American paper mills have ever depended upon Europe to ship to this country rags as grit, and Uncle Sam has employed every persuasion to lift the embargo. As a matter of fact, the paper mills in this country are feeling the pinch.

Here are some of the other things they handle: Mops, scouring powders, lubricating oil, soap powder, needles, anchors, feed for cattle and horses, food and drink for government houses, clothing for men and women, furniture and furnishings for homes and offices, machinery, drafting supplies, saddlery, laboratory apparatus, metals, lumber, brushes, computing machines, glassware, lubricants, seeds, flour, engraving and lithographic supplies, motor trucks and even nursing bottles.

Necessary articles are eliminated, and the committee has demonstrated that a very direct saving can be effected by awarding contracts to the bidders who will supply the best class of goods at the lowest prices. By means of standardization the committee has been able to give more efficient service. It has avoided standardizing on any particular make, however.

GENERAL Supply Committee, Established in 1910 for the Awarding of Contracts, Finds Few Articles That Have Not Been Boosted in Price on Account of European Struggle—Efficiency and Economy in Buying—How Contracts Are Made—The Great Variety of Supplies Needed by Uncle Sam.

time for materials used in paper making. The pulp mills throughout the Scandinavian peninsula have been steadily lower in materials with which they feed their mills. The paper problem to them looms larger and larger.

Paper is but a small part of the 200,000 items that fall to the lot of the general supply committee to furnish the government, and when one considers the baffling situation in regard to this one article one can better appreciate the difficulties which confront the committee that is doing its utmost to economize for Uncle Sam.

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The number of bidders increases each year, but all firms realize what a big thing a contract with Uncle Sam is for them. They are sure of a certain amount of work, and are equally sure of their pay, and besides this, there is the prestige which is bound to come when it becomes known that they have the contract for government work.

A natural consequence of the number of bidders increases each year. In five years, from 1910 to 1915, it increased from 604 to 314. A report, which seems to be authentic, was circulated concerning the total amount of money saved as a result of careful study and concentrated effort on the part of the committee. Its dealing with bidders and its quickness in seeing bargains, and it was estimated that Uncle Sam was richer by \$500,000 each year than he would have been had he "stood for."

Uncle Sam uses, at the very least calculated, 50,000 typewriters scattered throughout the various government departments. The Navy Department is the most prolific purchaser, buying some 2,000-odd machines; the Department of Agriculture stands next, calling for 855, and the Department of Interior ranks third, with 750. The War Department, civil service commission, Library of Congress, Post Office Department and Smithsonian all



THE GENERAL SUPPLY COMMITTEE.

Left to right—Albert G. Drake, vice chairman; Raymond C. Kidd, Dr. O. H. Briggs, Francis D. Alexander, William J. Turkenton, H. C. Allen, James E. Jones, John L. McGrew, Guy V. Norwood, Don E. Clarke, and F. H. Austin. Clinton R. Whitney of the State Department was absent on detail to the Pan-American exposition when photo was taken.

(Photo by Shier Studio.)

use surprisingly few. In the year 1915 there were 5,435 typewriters contracted for by the committee. This year the price of typewriters has jumped, the rank and file of progressive prices, and Uncle Sam will find his typewriter bill less reasonable. Galvanized iron is all but prohibitive in price, but if the American manufacturer cannot obtain his raw materials from the European powers, prices will continue to triple and quadruple, and Uncle Sam will be obliged to bear it with the other consumers.

Perhaps there is least change in prices of meats, groceries, bedding and wearing apparel which is supplied to the different government institutions, though that even these have soared is shown by the report of one of the special or subcommittees of the general supply committee, which claims an increase of from 15 to 20 per cent in household supplies.

Chemicals, other than those used for papermaking purposes, are high. One

thousand represents the percentage of increase in benzoic acid; carbolic acid, 1,200; belladonna root, 550; mercury, 600; acetophenol, 1,400; mustard, 900; wintergreen, 1,200; quinine, 700; glycerin, 300; phenacetin, 2,500; salicylic acid, 1,000; acacrine, 1,000; and bromides from 2,000 to 3,000 per cent. Cod liver oil, a medicine many people are dependent on, costs five times what it did before the war. It was \$20 a barrel and is now selling for \$100.

But Uncle Sam, even though compelled to pay a larger price for supplies this year than any year previous, pays considerably less than the ordinary individual. As examples, he purchases gasoline for 23 cents a gallon while the public pays 33 or 34 cents for the same article. For 100 sheets of carbon paper the government pays 22-5 cents, as against 75 cents in the open market, and when some 35,500 boxes of carbon paper are needed government prices are advantageous. Typewriter ribbons cost \$4.50 a dozen

at the best of typewriter stores, while the government contract price is but \$2.50 per dozen. When some 50,000 ribbons are bought for the government it can readily be seen that the saving on typewriter ribbons alone is considerable. Over 2,000 dozen huck towels are purchased at a dollar a pound; the market price for rubber bands is one-half as much again.

Uncle Sam's hands get dirty, and would seem dirtier than they really are, when one hears that he buys considerably over 2,000 dozen huck towels annually; yet when one learns that he must have 1,150 dozen quarts of mullage and 5,400 pounds of glue to fill his needs, one is predisposed to think that his fingers must get unpleasantly sticky and that the towels follow more naturally. The general supply committee saves Uncle Sam something like \$1,000 on towels. On 4,100 pounds of glycerin the committee contrives to save more than \$1,300. That Uncle Sam leads in sanitary regulations is

evinced beyond the shadow of a doubt by the statistics of his purchases. Listed, no less than 12,027 kilos. Gasoline is another article in great demand. Over 45,800 gallons were used annually in Uncle Sam's business.

Even revolving desk chairs grow old and are replaced. The bureau of census, for example, has purchased for approximately 1,170 are purchased each year. By good management and by close buying, for which it has become famous, the committee contracted for 634 desks, and by dint of nice calculation saved over \$8,000. It also saved \$1,302 on twenty-one adding machines. Another commodity, widely different from those mentioned, and one on which the committee effected an appreciable saving, was wheat. The quantity of wheat consumed by Uncle Sam might lead one to wonder for a moment if he had turned baker, as he calls for over 2,800 barrels.

Because of the committee's efforts to buy economically, because it has given every evidence of intelligent uniformity in carrying out plans and because of its careful consideration of the needs of the government, it has been thought only the square and fair thing to do everything possible to aid it in its task. Certain innovations have been introduced as a consequence with the word "economy" for a slogan. Take, for an illustration, the question of flags. People are familiar with bunting for flags, but an attempt is being made to substitute made-in-America cotton flags. Flags have advanced in price with other things, and bunting flags are decidedly more expensive than cotton flags. The coast guard is experimenting with cotton flags, and the navy has decided to buy cotton flags in lieu of bunting. Many of them are exposed constantly to all kinds of weather. After they have been drenched, frozen and wind-whipped they go to pieces quickly unless they are made of the strongest and most durable of material. It is believed that cotton flags will prove much more serviceable than the bunting, and they are but half as expensive.

The government flies 325 flags each day and there are many again tucked away in station cubbyholes and in various places about a ship. There is a large number of signal flags in constant use by Uncle Sam, no fewer than 17,000. All these flags are made of cotton, are forty-four, have their set of signal flags, a full set consisting of twenty-six flags, being made to substitute made-in-America cotton flags. Flags have advanced in price with other things, and bunting flags are decidedly more expensive than cotton flags. The coast guard is experimenting with cotton flags, and the navy has decided to buy cotton flags in lieu of bunting. Many of them are exposed constantly to all kinds of weather. After they have been drenched, frozen and wind-whipped they go to pieces quickly unless they are made of the strongest and most durable of material. It is believed that cotton flags will prove much more serviceable than the bunting, and they are but half as expensive.

It is quite obvious that Uncle Sam's flag bill is considerable, and if there is some small change to be effected by a substitution of cotton for bunting flags, the committee will be very glad of the opportunity to see a change effected.

There is also some agitation in regard to twine used in the departments. The postal service alone uses 1,500,000 pounds of twine each year. This amounts to \$20,000. The government finds that it has used rather expensive twine, however. It is quite true, and made from the tough fiber of an East Indian plant. Government authorities may let cotton twine take the place of the jute. The former is cheaper and probably will answer the purpose quite as well.

Uncle Sam maintains a standard sample room, which is an interesting

place and reminds one of the country goods store of a bygone era. It contains scrub brushes, paste brushes, brooms, all kinds of desk supplies, pen racks, hangers, cups, ink, wash, ink, eraser, staplers, buckets, sandpaper, rubber dating stamps, pads for the stamping of letters, and a host of other things. The room is open to all, and ends of everything under the sun, the committee keeps accepted samples of all articles that have not been awarded upon specification alone. All articles for the government are submitted by contractors if Uncle Sam desires. The committee has the right to retain accepted samples during the life of the contract if it is thought best.

It is deemed advisable to test a large number of these samples. The bureau of standards tests scientific apparatus, engineering and electrical equipment and hardware; the bureau of mines tests on fuel used by the government; soaps are tested by the bureau of chemistry; even chewing gum is tested by a man in the Department of the Interior. He chews sample after sample faithfully, until he is sure that the sample he judges best is chosen. A supply of this particular brand of chewing gum is sent out to the Government Hospital for the Insane.

In the general supply committee a schedule of twenty classes of goods is included under the hardware. There are several kinds of baskets, among which are wicker baskets and market baskets, axes, hoes, saws, hammers, greases, every kind of a tool, axes, grease, soap, etc.

Uncle Sam is addicted to pins and pins are for nine different varieties. The ordinary, standby, the good old pin that is neither too proud to serve the purpose of the proletariat nor too humble to aid kings, is purchased in abundance. The pins are made to suit a tin, the insect and the clothespin, the ecutcheon and photographic pin and such others are listed among the government's real needs.

Before the committee took contracting for government supplies under its wing, there were 250 kinds of sewing machines in use in the departments. Now there are but eleven classes used. All dry goods have advanced in price, and under dry goods come broadcloth, all kinds of wearing apparel, boots, shoes, hosiery, winders, shades, cloth bags, the towels and flags mentioned. There appears to be no remedy for this advance. The country is told that soldiers are using all the leathers for boots and shoes.

Here is an incomplete list of curious and indiscriminate things for which Uncle Sam asks and which are still crawling up in price: Whips, buttons, rat traps, rings, coke, teeth extractors, cigars, aprons, bandanna handkerchiefs, courtplaster, apples, liquors, pictures, chewing gum, lumber, sarsaparilla, pots and pans, pickles, rum and nursing bottles.

At the time of its organization the general supply committee faced vigorous opposition, but so ably has it done its work and so tirelessly has it striven to overcome opposition that it might enlarge the scope of its work advantageously, so some of those most interested believe. It is suggested that it be given the authority to do purchasing as well as the contracting for supplies.